
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1966 No. 980**ROAD TRAFFIC****The Motor Vehicles (Speed Limit on Motorways)
Regulations 1966**

<i>Made</i> - - - -	19th July 1966
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	21st July 1966
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	14th August 1966

The Minister of Transport, in exercise of her powers under section 24(2) and (4) of the Road Traffic Act 1960(a) and of all other powers enabling her in that behalf and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 260(2) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on the 10th day following the day they are approved by Parliament and may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Speed Limit on Motorways) Regulations 1966.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(b) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament, and as if for the purposes of section 38 of that Act these Regulations were an Act of Parliament and the Regulations revoked by Regulation 2 of these Regulations were an Act of Parliament thereby repealed.

2. The Motor Vehicles (Speed Limit on Special Roads) Regulations 1959(c) are hereby revoked.

3. The provisions of Schedule 1 to the Road Traffic Act 1960 shall, in relation to vehicles while being driven on a special road, be varied so as to have effect as set out in the Schedule to these Regulations, but this provision shall not have effect in relation to any special road until the date on which it is open for use as a special road.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport the 19th July 1966.

(L.S.)

Barbara Castle,
The Minister of Transport.

**SCHEDULE
LIMIT OF SPEED**

Class or Description of Vehicle	Maximum speed, miles per hour.
1. A passenger vehicle drawing one trailer in respect of which a public service vehicle licence granted under section 127 of the Road Traffic Act 1960 is in force.....	50
2. Any other motor vehicle drawing one trailer (not being an articulated vehicle) if the trailer has less than 4 wheels or is a close-coupled four-wheeled trailer.....	40

INTERPRETATION

3. In this Schedule "articulated vehicle" means a vehicle which consists of a motor vehicle drawing a trailer where the trailer is so attached to the drawing vehicle that part of the trailer is superimposed upon the drawing vehicle, and when the trailer is uniformly loaded not less than 20 per cent. of the weight of its load is borne by the drawing vehicle.

4. In this Schedule "close-coupled", in relation to a trailer, means that the wheels on the same side of the trailer are so fitted that at all times while it is in motion they remain parallel to the longitudinal axis of the trailer, and that the distance between the centres of the respective areas of contact with the road surface does not exceed 33 inches.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

Schedule 1 to the Road Traffic Act 1960, as varied by the Motor Vehicles (Speed Limit on Special Roads) Regulations 1959 as respects vehicles driven on motorways, specified a speed limit for a class or description of vehicle while being driven on a motorway. It imposed a speed limit only on vehicles drawing certain trailers and which were not articulated, and the limit was 40 m.p.h.

These Regulations further vary the provisions of the said Schedule 1 as respects vehicles driven on motorways. The principal change is that a public service vehicle drawing a trailer is now permitted to travel at a maximum speed of 50 m.p.h. on a motorway.